

363.728

PLEASE RETURN

Montana State Library
3 0864 1006 6840 2

Hesperia

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

1984



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

STATE OF MONTANA

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

SEP 24 1984

September 17, 1984

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

Re: Preliminary Environmental Review
Malta Class II Landfill

Board of County Commissioners, Phillips Co. Courthouse, Malta, MT
Cherie' Nelligan, County Sanitarian, Courthouse Annex, Glasgow, MT
Shirley Legg, Mayor, City of Malta, Drawer L, Malta, MT
B. W. Hasler, Director of Public Works, Drawer L, Malta, MT
Robert Wiprud, Health Officer, P.O.Box 700, Malta, MT
Rita Nunn, Phillips Co. Planning, P. O. Box 1155, Malta, MT
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Bldg., Helena, MT
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences Division, DHES, Helena, MT
Harold Chambers, State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena, MT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604,
the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the
Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the City of
Malta, Class II Landfill.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform
all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of
the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have
a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary
Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15)
days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within
the allotted time.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. GEACH
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

JCG:vc
Encls.

WANTS WAS

100
100

100

100

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 444-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid Waste Management Bureau

Project or Application City of Malta Class II License Application

Description of Project The city of Malta has submitted a solid waste management system license application for a proposed Class II (household refuse) sanitary landfill to be located in the NE 1/4 Section 30, Township 30N, Range 30E, Phillips County. (See Attached map) The Preliminary Environmental Review is being prepared and circulated in conjunction with the review process for the application.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats			X			X
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution			X			X
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture			X			X
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			X
5. Aesthetics			X			X
6. Air quality			X			X
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy			X			X
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue			X			X
4. Agricultural or industrial production			X			X
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment				X		
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			X
11. Industrial & commercial activity				X		
12. Demands for energy			X			X
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Phillips County Health Department,

Phillips County Planning Board

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. _____

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS Not Necessary

PER Prepared by: JOHN C. GEACH

Date: September 17, 1984

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. Terrestrial and aquatic life and habitats:

Some species of birds and small animals will be displaced by the loss of habitat as a result of this project. This habitat loss will be relatively short term and due to the abundance of other suitable habitats for these species in the surrounding area, this impact should be very minor.

2. Water quality, quantity and distribution:

Several small ravines and natural drainages exist within the proposed landfill site. With the exception of one ravine the heads of all drainages begin within the site boundaries. This will allow surface water diversion to be accomplished easily using simple control methods. Due to the site's topography the surface water flows should be minimal.

The one ravine which does not begin within the site will not be allowed to be filled until a professional diversion assessment is conducted and submitted by the applicant to this department for approval.

3. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture:

The addition of solid waste to the soil will permanently alter the soil quality moisture capacity and stability of the fill area. Some minor settling may occur over completed trench areas. However, with proper grading and re-dressing of these areas, no serious or long term settling problems should result.

4. Vegetative cover, quantity and quality:

The area currently contains native vegetation including sage brush and native grasses. This vegetation will be disturbed during landfilling, however, this disturbance will be short term and these plant species should quickly re-establish on the filled portions of the site.

5. Aesthetics:

The aesthetics of the area will be altered during trench excavation and filling operations. The greatest threat to the area's aesthetics would result from inadequate litter control. Montana refuse disposal rules require licensed landfills to adequately control litter by using litter fences or other control methods.

6. Air Quality:

Licensed landfill sites may obtain burning permits from the state air quality bureau to burn clean untreated wood wastes. The periodic burning of these materials should have a minor impact on the area's air quality.

8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy:

The development of this project will temporarily remove agricultural grazing land from production. The current productivity of this site for animal grazing is very limited. Therefore the short term impact of removing this grazing potential is minimal.



POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue:

This project will result in the transfer of private taxable land being converted to governmental non taxable lands.

4. Agricultural or industrial production:

See #8 "Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy" above.

10. Demands for government services:

Governmental services will be required on the local and state level for inspectional and administrative services associated with the issuance of a solid waste management system license to this landfill.

12. Demands for Energy:

Gasoline and other petroleum products will be consumed in refuse transportation to the landfill site and in the operation of the equipment needed at the site to properly handle and dispose of the refuse.

14. Transportation networks and traffic flows:

This proposed landfill site is approximately one half mile south of the existing city landfill site. The roads serving this area are now sustaining the traffic to this existing landfill and no increased traffic flows are anticipated by this proposed landfill site.





